

Lectori salutem

The study of Central European Humanism of the early modern period has been actuating for a long time the cooperation of the Bohemian, Moravian, and Hungarian scholars. Their joined efforts never ceased, not even during the most difficult decades of the 20th century. Bohumil Ryba, professor at Charles University, in Prague, had just finished the edition of a fifteenth century Latin dissertation written by Iohannes Rabensteinensis, the offspring of a Bohemian noble family, before the critical times of September 1942. The booklet was published in the much acclaimed *Bibliotheca Scriptorum Medii Recentisque Aevorum*, a famous book series that was established by the Hungarian scholar, László Juhász, during his years at Szeged University. By this time, the common undertakings of the Bohemian and the Hungarian scholars had steadily been developed; while Ryba published a few of the humanist Bohuslav Hasištejnský z Lobkovic's writings in the aforementioned book series in 1937, it was Juhász who, after having closely collaborated with Augustin Potuček for years, published Lobkovic's letters in 1946, ulterior to Potuček's passing. Moreover, the publication of Stephanus Taurinus Olomucensis's *Stauromachia* in 1944, was Juhász's personal enterprise.

There came the grievous subjection of both Czechoslovakia and Hungary during the ensuing decades of the Second World War. Professor Ryba, for instance, was deprived of his Academician title, given a show trial and sentenced to long prison term. Despite this abjection, there had always been someone who kept alive the scholarly interest for the Bohemian–Hungarian cultural contacts of the Renaissance and Baroque period. They were the Hungarians Endre Angyal, László Dobossy, Endre Kovács, or the Bohemian Richard Pražák, just to mention but a few. Furthermore, Juhász's acknowledged book series, the *Bibliotheca Scriptorum Medii Recentisque Aevorum* was relaunched by Tibor Klaniczay at the Institute for Literary Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, in 1976. Naturally, the new series could not be sustained without the publishing of humanist texts originating from Bohemia, thus Dana Martínková edited the 1563 travelogue written in France by the České Budějovice born Simon Proxenus a Sudetis, relying on the manuscript preserved in Brno.

The *Bibliotheca*, undertaking the critical edition and publication of early modern Latin texts, is still being edited at the Institute for Literary Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. It is our institute that hosts that restricted

scholarly community whose members are committed to the complex and exhaustive study of the regional particularities of Central European Humanism. The conference in November 2013, organized by joint efforts of our institute and National Széchényi Library, constituted the very first opportunity to posit the oeuvre of Augustinus Moravus Olomucensis in the very centre of scholarly attention, though this body of humanist texts has long ago challenged our interest embedded in the prevailing intellectual context of the Bohemian, Moravian, and Hungarian Humanism.

Nowadays, when finally the Central European region ceased to be dominated by decades of cataclysms, a research investigating the history of the region's Latin philological culture will surely reveal new perspectives on collaboration. For, I believe, it was this conference that testified for these new possibilities of further scholarly enterprises; besides, it was an excellent occasion to salute the experts in the relevant fields and the learned contributors of this event. It is an extraordinary pleasure to have the opportunity of greeting the collection edited from the papers of this unique conference.

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